

PROCLAMATION **EMPLOYER SUPPORT OF THE GUARD AND RESERVE WEEK**NOVEMBER 16-22, 2003

WHEREAS, through their service, National Guard and Reserve personnel play an important role in our efforts to advance democracy, peace, and freedom across our nation and around the world; and

WHEREAS, these dedicated men and women train vigorously and work closely with our active-duty forces, serving as equal partners in our integrated armed forces. As our need for their efforts expands, these citizen-soldiers will spend more time away from their families, homes, and workplaces protecting our nation; and

WHEREAS, as North Dakota soldiers are deployed across the world, they leave behind their families, communities and careers to serve their country; and

WHEREAS, our volunteer National Guardsmen and Reservists rely on their employers for essential support and encouragement that often comes at the employers expense; and

NOW, THEREFORE, as the Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim November 16-22, 2003, as **EMPLOYER SUPPORT OF THE GUARD AND RESERVE WEEK** in the state of North Dakota.

/s/ John Hoeven Governor

Attest:

/s/ Alvin A. Jaeger Secretary of State